

DECEMBER 2005

# PATRIOT

The magazine featuring the best of Ft. Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield & neighboring communities.

## Directorate of Logistics keeps the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division rolling ...

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## Welcome ...

To the first issue of the *Patriot* insert. Each quarter, The *Patriot* will take a look at the civilian workforce and agencies of Fort Stewart who keep the 3rd Infantry Division ready for any assigned mission. Additionally, each issue of the *Patriot* will highlight a community adjacent to Fort Stewart which plays a vital role in providing off-post housing, education, recreation and contract services to Ft. Stewart — creating a symbiotic relationship that makes Coastal Georgia an area people want to live and work in.

## *Inside the Patriot*

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**Cover photo — (Right) JoeAnn Bryant helps 2nd Lt. Ryan Pensyl with his personal protection equipment issue during in processing at Fort Stewart's Central Issue Facility. Photo by — Sharon Bass.**

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# Logistics keeps 3ID on the move

*Frontline Staff*

When it comes to the basic needs of every Soldier, the Directorate of Logistics handles it all. Fort Stewart DOL employees work daily to provide Marine Soldiers with the “beans and bullets” essential to every mission.

As its mission statement reads, DOL provides world class maintenance, supply and transportation services to the 3rd Inf. Div., tenant units and Department of Defense activities.

“We provide key logistical support to ensure Soldiers and their equipment are combat ready to allow 3rd Infantry Division to meet deployment time lines,” Royce Kennedy, director, DOL, said. “Commanders ability to prepare and train forces would be impacted without DOL. We allow them to focus on their mission by handling a lot of logistical support.”

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield DOLs are responsible for receiving, storing,



DOL Photo

***Employees place the division insignia on containers destined for Iraq. The project, implemented by Fort Stewart's DOL, helped set the standard for Army-wide container identification.***

issuing and keeping inventory of all classes of supply, except for medical supplies. They interface directly with wholesale, commercial and customer activities.

DOL also provides contingency support, such as Desert Camouflage Uniforms, Meals Ready to Eat, Personal Chemical Defense Equipment, and performs as installation accountable property officer, applying stock control policies and procedures.

It provides a wholesale and financial interface for customers and is the installation oversight for the Standard Army Retail Supply system.

Logistically, DOL provides and coordinates services and support, including food services, troop issue subsistence, laundry services, central issue facility, ammunition supply point, tactical equipment maintenance and transportation.

In addition to supporting the 3rd Infantry Div., DOL is the mobilization site for 254 Reserve and National Guard units.

“We provide (logistical support) to the division to prepare them for their war-time mission and provide follow-up support during that mission,” James Niksch, deputy director DOL and supply division chief, said.

“A famous general once said, ‘I don’t know what logistics is but I want some of it,’” Kennedy said. “Logistics encompasses supply, maintenance and transportation. While the 3rd Infantry Division is able to provide internal logistics, they depend on the installation DOL to augment their capabilities.”

“This is especially true when they are preparing for deployment or redeployment. The bottom line is DOL provides key logistics support to ensure Soldiers and equipment are combat ready,” he said.

DOL provides, maintains, upgrades and introduces training support resources and capabilities that enable commanders to train units to Army standards.



DOL Photo

***DOL repairs everything from M1 tanks to M16 rifles to smaller items such as night vision goggles to ensure division Soldiers are ready to deploy for any mission.***



DOL

## Maintaining mission readiness...

*A DOL civilian contractor adds armor to humvees destined for Iraq and the 3rd Infantry Division.*



# Supply director aims to serve Soldiers

Deputy DOL helps to keep 3rd Infantry Division mission ready.

*Frontline Staff*

James Niksch was born in Warwick, Va. in the summer of 1954. He spent his childhood years growing up on a small farm in northern Indiana.

Nicksch joined the Army in 1972 and was assigned to 2/503rd Airborne Battalion at Fort Campbell, Ky., followed by an assignment with 1/75 Ranger Bn. at Fort Stewart until 1976. Niksch then parted with Army life to become a civil service worker. His first job was picking up trash off sides of major Fort Stewart highways.

Later that year he became a warehouse worker in DOL, and remained in that position until 1986 when he was accepted into the FORSCOM supply intern program. The program incorporates developmental assignments and formal training to produce succession managers for FORSCOM.

Upon completion of the internship in 1988, he was assigned to the DOL at Fort Drum, Ny., as assistant chief of the plans and operations division.

In 1990 he was promoted as the DOL chief of logistics automation at Fort Drum. Four years later he transferred back to Fort Stewart as a logistics systems analyst within DOL.

Fast forward three years more and he was promoted to operations branch supervisor in the supply division. In 2003, Niksch was promoted to his current position as the supply division chief and deputy DOL.

He has been married to his wife Rebecca for 17 years. He has two sons, Shawn and Chris, and four daughters, Tina, Brandi, Nichole and Amber. He also boasts four grandchildren, Devon, Carlee, Alaina and Colton.

Nicksch currently lives in Allenhurst, Ga. in a rural setting and enjoys golfing, fishing, carpentry and spending time with his children and grandchildren.

"I have been blessed both personally and professionally and owe the majority of my accomplishments to my personal and professional family," he said. "I have been lucky throughout my career, to include my current assignment and to be surrounded by dedicated and knowledgeable managers and employees who universally believe that serving our customers, including the 3rd Infantry Division, is our reason for existing and go out of their way to insure each Soldier is treated professionally and in a manner they would like to be served.

"The DOL motto is 'a leader in logistics support' and the DOL team of employees epitomizes that motto," he said.



Spc. JeNell Mattair

**James Niksch has been the deputy DOL and supply and service division chief since 2003.**



DOL photos

All in a days work...

*As its mission statement reads, DOL provides world class maintenance, supply and transportation services to the 3rd Inf. Div., tenant units and Department of Defense activities.*



# Central Issue Facility keeps Soldiers supplied

*Frontline Staff*

The supply and service division of DOL has a multitude of tasks at any given time. The hard-working people of the division aim to provide Soldiers with everything they need to accomplish the mission at hand.

"This (area of operation) provides equipment and parts to Soldiers to ensure preparedness in training to go to war," Royce Kennedy, director, DOL, said.

The ammunition supply point falls under this division.

"All the ammo units training at Fort Stewart use, we handle," James Niksch, chief, supply and service division, said. "(Unit command) uses the ammo request form to ask for ammunition, we pull out the ammo and load it onto the truck; then the unit goes out and shoots. Nine times out of ten the Soldiers don't fire everything. We bring back any residue or unshot rounds and screen them very carefully to make sure they don't get mixed with the live rounds," he said. "We either put them back into rotation or dispose of them properly."

Service and Supply Division stocks and supports the division in nine separate supply classes, Niksch said. Food, clothing and equipment, petrol, engineering equipment, ammo, health and comfort, major end items, repair parts and civil affairs needs,



DOL Photo

***CIF supplies each Soldier with his complete mission requirements.***

keep this section of DOL busy daily.

"We provide significant support for the 3rd Infantry Division," Niksch said. "Due to modularity we have picked up many additional missions, for example, the division used to have a map section which we have absorbed."

The supply and services division played a primary role in the movement of equipment due to modularity,

Niksch said.

"Almost 13,000 pieces of equipment came into the division ranging from M-1 tanks to tents and bayonets," he said.

Some units, such as the 24th Core Support Group, were absorbed into modular units, which left SOCOM units hanging out there with no support, Niksch said. DOL picked up those missions, he said.



Spc. JeNell Mattair

***Michelle Moore helps a Soldier return previously issued items to the Central Issue Facility.***



Some units, such as the 24th Corps Support Group, were absorbed into modular units, which left SOCOM units hanging out there with no support, Niksch said. DOL picked up those missions.

“While the Division has been gone, units have changed,” he said. “We had to relocate unit equipment that was left behind to new modular units.”

With two moving teams consisting of 12-15 people, there was a lot of coordination involved, he said.

“We have been working that mission the entire time the division has been gone,” Niksch said.

“It has been a significant achievement that we have accomplished in concert with other divisions. It was a team effort,” he said.

DOL has played an essential role in deploying 3rd Inf. Div. twice and redeploying once in the last three years.

Currently, the Supply and Service Division is concentrating on the next redeployment, Niksch said.

“The installation has won the ‘Community of Excellence’ award for two consecutive years and is being evaluated for the third year right now,” Niksch said. “We didn’t do anything ourselves, but we were a primary player in winning that award.”

DOL has actively renovated or constructed new dining facilities on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. The Supply and Service Division currently maintains seven active and 17 mobilization/demobilization dining facilities in the community. The Central Issue Facility also falls under the Supply and Service Division area of operations. Every Soldier coming onto and leaving from Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield must process through CIF.

In the last year alone CIF employees have processed 59,636 issues, 49,255 turn-ins, and 115,304 pieces of laundry. The facility staff works to provide every Soldier with the clothing and equipment they need to be combat ready.

CIF issues items ranging from chemical defense equipment to tactical vests and desert camouflage uniforms.

“One of the largest amount of items issued were the DCUs,” Niksch said. “All of those were issued shortly before the deployment.”

“The laundry and sewing staff go hand in hand with CIF. Soldiers don’t have to clean equipment anymore, all of it is cleaned through post laundry,” Niksch said.

“All Soldiers are authorized to have patches sewn on their uniforms at no cost and we do that as well,” he said.

The supply and service division maintains state-of-the-art bulk fuel facilities on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

“If you have CQ (charge-of-quarters duty) and need fuel in the middle of the night, you can get fuel,” Niksch said.

And, these are just some of the tasks that keep this section of DOL busy every day. Clearly the Supply and Service Division has an enormous mission.



Spc. JeNell Mattair

**(Left to right) Val Carter and Tisha Lanier check various types of gear for deficiencies or defects.**



DOL Photo

**DOL civilian employees take supplies from shelves in the storage warehouse of the issue facility.**



# Supply & Service Div. — Central Issue Facility

## an overview of 2005's year of outstanding service

Issues	59,636
Turn-ins	49,255
Direct exchange	7,456
Laundry (Pieces)	115,304
Turn-ins (Pieces)	152,863
Annual PCS/ETS	8,500
Lines managed	914
NSN's managed	6,947
On hand value	\$86.5 Million
Soldier issues	\$105 Million

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“A famous general once said, ‘I don’t know what logistics is but I want some of it,’” Royce Kennedy, Director, DOL, said. “Logistics encompasses supply, maintenance and transportation. While the 3rd Infantry Division is able to provide internal logistics, they depend on the installation DOL to augment their capabilities.”

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# Welcome Home to Southern Living in *Liberty County*

**L**iberty County is blessed with an abundance of southern beauty and charm, but more importantly, we're blessed to be home to Fort Stewart and soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division. These defenders of freedom have found a home of welcome and respect. 3rd Infantry Division soldiers are a vital part of this community and that makes Liberty County a great place to live.

Thousands of retiring veterans have discovered Liberty County as a great place to live for a lifetime. Southern charm and hospitality abound. Step back from the hustle of the business world and find yourself in a way of life that few have the opportunity to experience.

All roads lead to Liberty County. We're connected to the outside world by interstates, rails, air and sea ports.

History surrounds us. You'll enjoy exploring the historic Midway Museum and Liberty Trail. Liberty County is the home of Button Gwinnett and Lyman Hall, two signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Highly trained engineers spend their week manufacturing high tech components and spend Saturday's engineering the perfect golf swing. Liberty County offers the tranquility of coastal beauty living in harmony with the millwrights of Interstate Paper who operate one of the largest paper mills in the southeast.

Liberty County offers a mix of old south tradition with advanced state of the art technology. It's a lifestyle second to none. We live in a place that we're proud to call home. Once visited, you too will want to stay for a lifetime.



**Pat Bowen**  
Commissioner  
4th District

**Donald Lovette**  
Commissioner  
2nd District

**Connie Thrift**  
Vice Chairman  
3rd District

**John McIver**  
Chairman

**Kenny Fussell**  
Commissioner  
5th District

**Marion Stevens Sr.**  
Commissioner  
1st District

**Eddie Walden**  
Commissioner  
6th District





Army photo

***DOL maintains all equipment used by the 3rd Inf. Division.***



Spc. JeNell Mattair

***Michelle Moore examines sleeping bags turned in by Soldiers to the Central Issue Facility on Fort Stewart.***



DOL Photo

***The transportation division manages personal property and passenger movement, deployment operations, the Transportation Motor Pool and material movement, which includes freight and container movement.***

# The rest of the story...

*Frontline Staff*

The supply and service division works hand in hand with three other main divisions of DOL to accomplish their mission. Transportation, Maintenance, Plans and Operations are equally important to DOL. The Transportation Division manages personal property and passenger movement, deployment operations, the TMP and material movement, which includes freight and container movement.

"We are a small organization but we have a big area to support," Rita Johansen, chief of transportation division, said. "We do deployment and redeployment support in addition to movement and receiving of Soldier's personal property. We also do TDY movements. We charter the airplanes that go to National Training Center and Joint Readiness Training Center."

"The Maintenance Division encompasses a wide area of operations. The division repairs anything from laser range finders and M1 tanks to night vision goggles and helicopters," Bob Dewitt, chief, maintenance division, DOL, said.

"Anything that a Soldier carries to combat, rides in or flies in, we repair," he said.

"I get up and come to work everyday to provide to the Soldier the best equipment that we possibly can to protect himself and defend this



File Photo

***The transportation department ensures timely and reliable transport services for Soldiers and equipment.***

country," he said.

Plans and Operations works closely with the other three divisions within DOL. The people of Plans and Operations played an active role during both deployments and during the reorganization process due to modularity.

"The Plans and Operations division is small but they have dedicated employees who understand their mission to support the Soldier and they enjoy doing so," Debra Ware, Chief, plans and operations, said.



# Hinesville — home to beauty, history

**Sandy White**

*Hinesville Downtown Manager*

Located along the picturesque Georgia coast just 35 minutes southwest of Savannah, our community is unrivaled in its stunning beauty, outstanding history and notable convenience. Coastal living is at its best here.

We may work hard throughout the week, but we know how to play hard too. With a range of recreational, cultural and leisure activities to suit any lifestyle, it is no wonder that so many who plan to “just pass through” end up staying for a lifetime.

Hinesville is the county seat and also the largest city in Liberty County. With a population of over 30,000, Hinesville is also one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Georgia in both size and population. The city is located in the heart of Liberty County which is approximately 240 miles southeast of Atlanta and approximately 35 miles southwest of Savannah. Hinesville is the proud home of the 3rd Infantry Division and Fort Stewart.

The presence of the military has contributed significantly to the growth of the area. The city and county share a special relationship of mutual cooperation with the fort. Even with the flourishing growth, Hinesville and Liberty County still retain that small town atmosphere where newcomers and long-time residents work hand-in-hand to achieve a better community.

Hinesville was founded and the county seat moved here in 1837. Hinesville was named for Charlton Hines, an early settler who was serving as senator from Liberty County in the Georgia legislature, and who was very instrumental in having the county seat moved.

Shortly after Hinesville was settled, the Hinesville Methodist Church served as a place of worship for all denominations for about 100 years. Then in 1841, the settlers established a school beside the church which became Hinesville Academy. The founder of the school was Colonel James Bradwell, one of the local high Schools, Bradwell Institute, still bears his name today. From there, the Hinesville Gazette was established as well as many organizations and mercantile businesses. The rest, as they say, is “history”.

Today, Hinesville is a community with an eye on the future. With a comprehensive urban redevelopment plan and a downtown redevelopment master plan for the city already in place, the community is poised to break out of the cookie-cutter architecture which reflects neither a sense of place nor a sense of pride. The development calls for new mixed-use, residential and commercial development that will give the community a cohesive and unique presence while preserving the community’s rich history. All of these



File photo

***Small town atmosphere, rich history, with a range of activities to suit any lifestyle, Hinesville is a place you will immediately want to call home.***

wonderful attributes make Hinesville a great community to live, work, and visit!

As a newcomer to the community, you will find friendly people who will invite you to take an active part in the life of our peaceful, historic community.

Your children will find schools that are prepared to greet new students each year and classmates that quickly turn newcomers into friends.

Located on Georgia's coast, our community invites you to share in the natural beauty of our waterways — a resource we are very proud of. As the home of Fort Stewart, the largest military post east of the Mississippi, our population is likely the most diverse in South Georgia. You will find all walks of life here, including many different cultures. We plan to keep pace with growth and development and promote our priceless heritage. If you have moved here or are moving here, welcome home; if you are here for a brief stay, we hope you like it so much, that you will want to make it your new home.

For centuries, this area has held a mystical power over explorers. Spanish sailors wrote dazzling descriptions of a land of clear springs, thick forests, and verdant marshes teeming with wildlife. Passionate struggles have been born and fought on its soil, and a

strong legacy of life, liberty, and the pursuit of history lives on.

The Historic Liberty Trail is a unique driving tour offering a diverse experience integrating history, culture, and ecology.

Beginning from the earliest time in our history, one of the first stops will be Fort Morris State Historic Site.

Fort Morris was built to defend the former town of Sunbury, once a bustling seaport in Georgia, second only to Savannah. Fort Morris was used as a coastal fortification during the Revolutionary War.

The earthen works were reconstructed during the War of 1812 and were later used as a Civil War encampment.

Right next door is Sunbury Cemetery. Road signs still direct the way to Sunbury, and "Old Sunbury Road" still marks the Colonial pathway on maps. But, no vestige of the once-thriving coastal port remains.

The homes, wharves, and shops are all gone, replaced now by upscale homes reflecting the continued desirability of the site. The only reminder of those earlier days is Sunbury Cemetery, the permanent home of earlier citizens.

Just down the road is Seabrook Village, an award-winning living history museum featuring eight turn-of-the-century buildings on a developing 104-acre site.

Visit the one-room school where "reading writing and 'rithmetic were taught to the tune of a hick'ry stick." Or, try your hand at grinding corn into meal and grits or washing clothes on a scrub board. Planned group visits are fully interactive as costumed interpreters engage visitors in all aspects of old time village life.

A few more miles west toward I-95 is Melon Bluff Nature and Heritage Preserve. Nestled amongst 3,000 unspoiled acres on Georgia's coast, Melon Bluff is set amid gorgeous, moss-hung oaks at the river's edge.

The site offers 25 miles of grassy, forest trails for hiking, biking, picnics and riding. Birding is the prime attraction, offering 309 species, many uncommon and endangered.

Next is the Midway Church. Built in 1756, it was burned during the American Revolution and rebuilt in 1792.

In this simple white-frame, New England-style church, still standing today, Sherman's cavalry set up foraging head-



File photo

***Dr. Martin Luther King, jr., prepared for the Birmingham, Ala. civil rights marches in 1963 at Dorchester Academy.***

quarters during the Civil War. Today, giant live oaks draped with Spanish moss shade about 1,200 graves in the cemetery, among them two generals of the American Revolution and Governor Nathan Brownson.

Next you'll find Dorchester Academy. The academy, today an active community center and museum, was founded after the Civil War as a school for freed slaves.

By 1917, the fully-accredited high school had eight frame buildings and 300 students. In the 1940s, its academic program ended when a consolidated school for black youth was built in nearby Riceboro. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. came to the site to prepare for the 1963 Birmingham campaign, one of the first major victories of the Civil Rights Movement.

Another site on the trail is LeConte-Woodmanston. Formerly the home of Dr. Louis LeConte, the site flourished as one of Georgia's earliest inland swamp rice plantations and is now a nature-based center and botanical gardens.

Dr. LeConte achieved international fame in scientific circles as did his sons, John and Joseph.

John was the first president of the

University of California at Berkeley. Joseph and his friend John Muir co-founded the Sierra Club.

Today, Louis LeConte's world-famous 18th Century botanical gardens are being recreated with a myriad of antique plants. Walk the interpretative trail along the earthen rice dikes leading through the Bulltown Swamp black-water eco-system.

Nearby is an excellent example of tidal, freshwater wetlands. The Cay Creek wetlands provide a unique opportunity for education and appreciation.

The area provides the habitats for numerous species of animals, including birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and insects.

Located just a few blocks from downtown Hinesville is Fort Stewart, the largest military post east of the Mississippi River, home to the United States Army's 3rd Infantry Division.

At the Fort Stewart Museum, Liberty County's military heritage is showcased in ever-changing exhibits featuring military objects from World War II, Desert Storm, and present-day military activities.

For more information, visit the Web site at: [www.libertytrail.com](http://www.libertytrail.com).



# Your health care needs

The Lewis Ashmore Medical Park promotes quality health care in the community by showcasing Liberty Regional Medical Center and Liberty Regional Medical Office Building. Liberty Regional Medical Center, with 70,000 square feet, is now a critical access facility with 25 beds.

The hospital and its FastTrack emergency care see nearly 20,000 patients a year. Liberty Regional Medical Center operates the Emergency Medical Services in both Liberty and Long counties.

The Liberty County Health Department provides a wide variety of public health programs that cover over a hundred different services from infant healthcare to environmental inspections.

For more information see the Liberty Regional Medical Center Web site: [www.libertyregional.org/](http://www.libertyregional.org/).

Liberty Regional Medical Center offers services such as —

- Women's Health
- Obstetrics/Gynecology (labor/delivery)
- Mammography (FDA/ACR accredited)
- Pediatrics
- Family medicine
- Specialty service such as surgery, laser, and laparoscopic
- Ear, nose, and throat, orthopedics, plastic surgery
- Gastroenterology
- Urology
- Ophthalmology
- Non-invasive cardiology
- Rehabilitation Therapy including speech, physical, and occupational
- Imaging services such as CT Scan, Mobile MRI, X-rays, Ultrasound Echocardiology
- Emergency and Trauma
- A 66-bed, long-term care facility, Coastal Manor, provides 24-hour nursing care for while offering some of the comforts of home. It recently opened a 42-bed Alzheimer's patients' wing.



File photos

## Beauty and craftsmanship...

*For centuries, this area has held a mystical power over explorers who wrote of thick forests and verdant marshes teeming with wildlife (left) and of the consummate artisans who's craft represents a time long past (above).*



# The many faces of downtown Hinesville



*(Above) Bradwell Park beckons citizens to take a break in their busy day.*



*One of the interesting historic sites in downtown Hinesville is the 1892 Liberty County Jail.*



*Downtown is an inviting place to work and play.*



Courtesy Photos

*There ae several unique businessses and some interesting architecture in downtown Hinesville.*



File photos

***We know how to play here ... with an wide array of exciting sports and recreational activities at your fingertips. Above, kayakers enjoy the intercoastal waterway close to Hinesville.***

## Coastal Georgia recreation

**Sandy White**

*Hinesville Downtown Manager*

Coastal living in Liberty County brings an array of exciting sports and recreational activities, including fishing, sailing, kayaking, skiing and boating on intracoastal waterways or the open sea. Inland trails shaded by moss-draped oaks offer scenic hiking, biking and birding opportunities. Sportsmen journey here from across the region for excellent hunting, and families arrive by the hundreds for soccer tournaments in new sports complexes.

Fort Stewart offers four gymnasiums with free weights and weight machines, handball, racquetball, basketball, and volleyball courts, sauna, and an indoor pool at the Newman Physical Fitness Center. Outdoor swimming pools, tennis courts, football fields, a running track, and softball complexes also make fitness fun.

Fort Stewart's Youth Sports Program includes soccer, softball, football, and basketball leagues plus a spring track program. Competitive gymnastics, golf, bowling, tennis and Tae Kwon Do are also offered, along with a swim program.

Golf courses, bowling centers, and theaters on Fort Stewart and in the community offer fun for the whole family. Liberty County also boasts a 7-Cineplex

Theater with stadium seating where the latest movies are available for families to enjoy together. And concerts including Savannah Symphony performances in an historic church to country and rock jams at Fort Stewart, bring residents together for music appreciation of all kinds.

The Liberty County/Armed Services YMCA is one of the finest facilities in the Southeast, serving families in Liberty County and Fort Stewart. Rich in tradition, the YMCA has served as a worldwide fellowship of men, women, and children, of all races, religions, ages and abilities since 1844. The YMCA offers affordable membership, volunteer opportunities, and programs including youth and adult sports, health and fitness, aquatics, childcare, summer day-camp, and community development. The YMCA is proud to be "open to all" No one is denied the opportunity to participate in YMCA programs due to an inability to pay. Funds made available for financial assistance are provided through the United Way and the YMCA's annual Priceless Gifts Campaign. Please call 368-9622 for more information. Liberty County/Armed Services YMCA Web site at [www.ymcaofcoastalga.org/](http://www.ymcaofcoastalga.org/).

The Liberty County Recreation Department, located at 607 West Oglethorpe Highway in Hinesville, is



***What a catch! You'll find wonderful streams, ponds and lakes close by for fishing and enjoy a year-round comfortable coastal climate.***

responsible for all recreation and parks in Liberty County. Behind the office you will find Liberty Independent Troop Park. In the park you will find a public swimming pool, baseball fields, a football field, a running/walking track, tennis courts, basketball courts and a playground. Stafford Pavilion is located on the grounds and is an enclosed picnic area with seating for 100. It has a large kitchen area with gas and charcoal grills. There is a rental fee required for this facility and can be used by reservation only. One of the newest editions to the Recreation Department is James Brown Park. Here you will find a one-mile walking track which makes turns in and out of beautiful woods. Inside of the one-mile walking trail, are several baseball and soccer fields which are used daily. The Shuman Center, named after Charles Shuman who pioneered recreation in Liberty County, is a multi-use facility open to the public. The basketball courts can be converted to an auditorium and even has a stage on one end. There is a multipurpose room and a game room as well. The Hazel Carter Senior Citizen Center is also located at James Brown Park.



The Recreation Department also takes care of the many parks throughout Liberty County.

From Gum Branch Community Park to Briar Bay Community Park, you will find amenities such as kitchens, basketball courts, and softballs fields.

Also at your fingertips are the Riceboro Fishing Piers and the Sunbury Dock/Landing which gives you direct access to Georgia's Intercoastal Waterway.

As you can see, Liberty County has much to offer to the outgoing person as well as children.

Liberty County Recreation Department Web site at [www.lcrd2.homestead.com/](http://www.lcrd2.homestead.com/).

Perhaps the best way to make new friends and to make a difference in Liberty County is to join the activities of our many clubs and organizations. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Liberty County 4-H, and an array of athletic programs await youngsters.

Adults will enjoy well-known civic clubs such as Kiwanis, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce and Lions. Hobby clubs including hunting, computer, and gardening are also available.

Masonic lodges, military organizations (including veterans, retirees, and spouses clubs) and parent-teacher organizations, political groups, and service groups such as Habitat for Humanity are represented in the Liberty



File photo

***Visit the many historic and cultural sites our area has to offer such as the museum pictured above. You will also discover Revolutionary War and African-American heritage sites in addition to hiking, birding, biking and more!***

County area as well.

All faiths and denominations offer worship services, youth and adult classes and choirs, outreach programs, and more. Many faiths in our area offer services in a variety of languages and many cultures are represented in Liberty County's churches.



File Photo

***Our mission is to provide all students with an education promoting academic excellence, good citizenship and a love of learning in modern facilities using up-to-date technology resources.***

# Access to education excellence

**Sandy White**

*Hinesville Downtown Committee*

All Liberty County schools are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as well as the Georgia Accrediting Commission. We serve all public school students in Liberty County with the exception of those students grades K-6 who live on Fort Stewart.

Almost 11,000 students are served in modern facilities that include: one pre-kindergarten center, eight elementary schools, three middle schools, two high schools, Coastal Academy, a tri-county psychoeducational center, and two Ombudsman alternative programs for middle and high school students. Our Division of Exceptional Learning provides a wide range of services for every special needs exceptionality.

Primarily due to the presence of Ft. Stewart, approximately 50 percent of our student population is federally connected. With the recent news of more troops being relocated to the fort, we are expecting that number to rise significantly.

All facilities are equipped with the latest technology that is integrated into the curriculum to support student learning and to optimize academic achievement. Middle and high school students are afforded the opportunity to participate in a multitude of extracurricular activities. High school students may choose from a college preparatory track, technical/career track, or a dual track diploma. All students are encouraged to pursue a rigorous program of study which leads to employment, whether that career begins after high school or after additional postsecondary training.

Highly-trained teachers, modern, well-equipped schools--many built in the last few years for our growing county--and a community that supports and demands quality education await students in the Liberty County School System and the Fort Stewart School System.

Graduates from Liberty County High School and from Bradwell Institute graduate at a rate 4 per cent higher than the national average! Often, they go on to further their studies at the seven colleges and universities located within the area. In Liberty County, educating our youth has become paramount. We strive to yield true scholars rather than simply students of common instruction.

Visit their Web site at [www.liberty.k12.ga.us](http://www.liberty.k12.ga.us).

Technical schools and colleges are also available to both traditional and non-traditional students in Liberty County. From Savannah Technical College's Liberty Campus to Brewton Parker College's Liberty Campus; from The Liberty Center to the Fort Stewart Education Center, Post-Secondary opportunities are abundant in Liberty County.

Three libraries, the Liberty County Library, the Midway-Riceboro Branch, and the Fort Stewart Library, carry a wide selection of reference materials, access to the Internet, current newspapers and magazines, and current and classic fiction and non-fiction. Liberty County Public Library Web site at [www.liveoakpl.org/](http://www.liveoakpl.org/).

Brewton-Parker College, Liberty Campus, is located on Hwy. 84 in Flemington, Ga. northeast of Hinesville in Liberty County. The campus opened in 1999 and offers Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Science Degrees in Education, Business,



Psychology, Religion and Sociology. The college is committed to academic excellence, grounded in the Liberal Arts tradition, and is informed by the Christian faith. The school is also an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

The College is affiliated with the Georgia Baptist Convention and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; and their credits transfer anywhere in the world. No qualified student is denied admission due to finances and the key to admission is a high school degree or a GED certificate.

The student population is a good mix of local community students and those associated with Fort Stewart active duty, spouses, children, and retired members.

For more information, please contact Dr. Christine Talmadge, toll-free, at 1-888-508-7364 or locally at 448-2752. Brewton Parker College Web site: at [www.bpc.edu/](http://www.bpc.edu/).

Armstrong Atlantic State University

(AASU) is a University System of Georgia school offering more than 75 undergraduate and graduate degrees. AASU is the lead institution for the Liberty Center, an offsite location that has operated in the Ft. Stewart/Hinesville area since 1998 in partnership with other University System of Georgia schools. The diverse student population includes active duty military, military family members and civilians of all ages.

Degrees Offered at AASU- Liberty Center: Associate of Arts, Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice, Bachelor of General Studies and Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.

In addition, AASU-Liberty Center in Hinesville offers all or most of the core requirements needed for degrees in the Colleges of Education, Health Professions, Arts and Sciences, and the School of Computing.

AASU-Liberty Center is located at 740 East General Stewart Way Suite 210, Hinesville, Georgia 31313.

For further information, stop by the office or call (912) 368-7140/7240.

Additional information is also available at AASU-Liberty Center Web site at [www.libertyctr.armstrong.edu/](http://www.libertyctr.armstrong.edu/).

From its beginnings as the Opportunity School, a partnership between the Chamber of Commerce and the Savannah Chatham Public Schools, Savannah Technical College has evolved to a multi-campus 2-year college.

It offers quality technical instruction to its nearly 4,000 students in Chatham, Bryan, Effingham and Liberty and Long counties.

Savannah Technical College offers Technical Certificates of Credit, Degrees, and Diplomas in many different programs.

These programs are designed to provide you the best education and experience to prepare you for the workplace. You can find more information at Savannah Technical College's Web site - [www.savannahtech.edu/](http://www.savannahtech.edu/).



File Photo

***The Midway Museum is an example of early Georgia Colonial architecture in Liberty County.***

# Coastal Georgia — living at its best ...

**In a relaxing lifestyle suited to everyone.**

**Sandy White**

*Hinesville Downtown Manager*

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Coastal living is at its best in Liberty County.

We may work hard throughout the week, but we know how to play hard, too!

With a range of recreational and leisure activities to suit any lifestyle, it is no wonder that so many who plan to “just pass through” end up staying for a lifetime.

“Boredom” is a word which most residents are not familiar.

Liberty County is both a water paradise and moss-draped, oak-lined wonderland ensuring a relaxed lifestyle.

Whether you make waves by sailing, fishing, waterskiing or kayaking in the intracoastal waterways and open sea, make haste of our scenic hiking trails or make sporting use of our hunting grounds; whether you make a birdie on one of our glorious golf courses, or make friends at any local organizational gathering — Liberty County is sure to fulfill and amuse your every whim.



## Liberty County School System Mission

The mission of the Liberty County School System is to provide all students an education which promotes academic excellence, good citizenship, and a love of learning. This mission, which will be accomplished through the joint effort of the school, the student, the home, and the community, will meet the needs of an ever-changing global society.

The Liberty County Schools system has eight elementary, three middle and two high schools. Both Bradwell Institute and Liberty County High boast a full array of educational opportunities that include both college and tech-career preparation.

Liberty County School curriculum and extracurricular opportunities are very diverse so that every child may excel in areas of interest.

There are exceptional opportunities for teachers and students to participate beyond the typical classroom in the growth and development of students.

## Belief Statements

- *Every person has the right and responsibility to learn.*
- *Each child should be provided the opportunity to receive an education that meets individual needs.*
- *Every child should be provided with a safe learning environment.*
- *High expectations are necessary for student success.*
- *Education includes the development of citizenship, personal responsibility and respect for self and others.*
- *All individuals should be treated with respect and a sense of fairness.*
- *We recognize that the mobility of our population affords strong advantages but unique challenges for our schools.*
- *We will develop educational priorities that are based on the unique needs of our community.*
- *Schools must be sensitive to the needs of the community and to the changing needs of the learner.*
- *We support and encourage parent and community participation in the school system.*
- *Education is a joint effort and responsibility among the school, home and community.*
- *We support local control and individual school flexibility.*
- *All employees should model the system's organizational beliefs.*